AUSTRALIAN AIR ACCIDENT REPORT

At 1153 Western Standard Time on 3rd October 2009, the pilot of an Air Tractor Inc. 502 aircraft, registered VH-ODP, took off from an agricultural airstrip on a property about 5 km north-east of Wickepin, Western Australia to conduct agricultural spraying operations.

A short time later, the owner of the property discovered the wreckage of the aircraft, which had impacted the ground in an inverted attitude, fatally injuring the pilot.

There were no witnesses to the accident; however, the investigation determined that the aircraft had made contact with the upper branches of a tall tree prior to impact with the terrain.

The investigation did not identify any organisational or systemic issues that might adversely affect the future safety of aviation operations.